

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0018] entitled "DRAWINGS" with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the assembled wine barrel of the invention;

Figure 2 is an exploded view of one end and part of the center section of the wine barrel of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a partially cut away top view of one corner of the wine barrel of Figure 1 and with the "U" shape channel partially cut away;

Figure 4 is a sectional view of the wine barrel of Figure 1 along lines 4-4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a sectional view of the wine barrel of Figure 1 along lines 5-5 of Figure 3;

Figure 6 partially illustrates another embodiment ~~is illustrates other embodiments~~ of the wine barrel of the invention with the wood end panel and the U-shaped ring removed for clarity;

Figure 6A partially illustrates a variation of the embodiment of Figure 6 using circular tubes as connecting rods;

Figure 7 is a sectional view more completely illustrating ~~of~~ the wine barrel embodiment of Figure 6;

Figure 7A is a sectional view more completely illustrating the variation of Figure 6A;

Figure 8 illustrates the method of achieving a liquid tight barrel with use of tapered wood side panels having tongue and groove joining means;

Figure 9 illustrates, enlarged for clarity, the method of achieving a liquid tight barrel wherein the center wood piece is of a wedge shape having tongue and groove joining means;

Figure 10 illustrates a circular upper and lower ring to facilitate barrel rolling and another configuration having straight-sided rings to correspond to the number of flat sides of the barrel;

Figure 11 illustrates another method of attachment of adjacent wood panels by the use of wedge type metal plates; and

Figure 12 is a sectional view of part of Figure 11 showing how the ends of the metal plates fit into the wood panel and how to achieve clamping force to provide for a liquid tight barrel.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0031], the first full paragraph on page 9 of the application:

[0031.1] Figures 6A and 7A illustrate a variation of the invention using circular tubes as connecting rods. Figure 6A partially illustrates the variation of the embodiment of Figure 6 using circular tubes 40a as connecting rods. Figure 7A is a sectional taken through the center of circular tube 40a and of side wood panels 46a of Figure 6A, and more completely illustrates the variation. In this variation round tubes 40a are used as connecting rods and frame 10 is constructed without the use of locating bushings 23. Connecting rods 40a extend through the top and bottom wooden plates 25, 25a and of u-shaped rings 20. This extension of connecting tubes 40a into u-shaped rings 20 insures proper placement of the tubes 40a and by tightening of threaded tie-bolts 22 the rings 20 are clamped against upper and lower wood panels 25, 25a, wood panels 25, 25a in turn clamping against side wood panels 26, 26a to compress gasket 27a within the groove 30a thereby forming a liquid tight wine barrel. In this case the grooves in side panels 26, 26a can be eliminated since as shown in Figure 7A gasket 27a can be captured and compressed into groove 30a in upper and lower wood panels 25, 25a. In assembly, using washers 45a tie-bolts 22 are engaged with connector tubes 40a and assembled essentially as were connecting rods 21 as previously described.

Appl. No.: 10/053,292

Amendment prior to first Office Action

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheet of drawings includes the addition of figures 6A and 7A to sheet 5/8. This sheet, which includes Figures 6 and 7, replaces the original sheet including Figures 6 and 7.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet  
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes